

Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development (ICYD)

History and Development:

- 1999 grant from the Family and Youth Services Bureau, US Department of Health and Human Services was the catalyst for the Collaboration.
- A non-statutory network of state agencies that focuses on policies and practices affecting youth ages 6-21.

Membership:

- Representatives of agencies from ten state departments participate in the state-level collaboration:
 - Education, Human Services, Public Health, Human Rights, Management, Workforce Development, Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy, Commission on Volunteer Service, Iowa State University Extension, and Iowa Child Advocacy Board.
- Public and private organizations from the local level participate in various ICYD committees and workgroups.

Advisory and Workgroups:

- State Agency Workgroup comprised of program managers from participating state agencies.
- State of Iowa Youth Action Committee functions in an advisory capacity but does not send formal recommendations.
- Standing and ad hoc cross-agency committees implement specific strategies and action plans:
 - Capacity Building, Data and Communications.

Administrative Home:

- The Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning serves as the primary fiscal agent for the Collaboration with support from the Youth Policy Institute of Iowa and in-kind contributions from state departments and agencies.
- Staff time funded through various grants that agencies receive on behalf of or coordinate with the Collaboration.

Staffing:

- The Collaboration supports approximately 2.5 FTE, including 1 full-time person and 3 staff who

have both Collaboration and other responsibilities. Participating agencies also contribute various levels of staff time to ICYD.

Results Framework:

- Four result areas to achieve the Collaboration's vision to ensure that all Iowa youth are safe, healthy, successful, and prepared for adulthood:
 - All youth have safe and supportive families, schools and communities.
 - All youth are healthy and socially competent.
 - All youth are successful in school.
 - All youth are prepared for a productive adulthood.

Initiatives:

- Learning Supports — Iowa Department of Education led effort to coordinate non-academic services and supports for students and families using the ICYD results framework.
- State of Promise Americorps Initiative places 12 Americorps members in communities to assist in positive youth development local planning and aligning local policies and practices.
- Supporting the Iowa Youth Action Committee through staff time, leveraged funding/resources, designation of mentors from state agencies for each of the involved youth.

Strategies:

Aligning Policies and Programs

- Adopted common results and leading indicators to monitor progress.
- Completed a three year strategic plan to guide youth development efforts in the state.
- Completed a state program inventory and budget analysis of state-administered spending on children and youth programs.

Improving Systems and Services

- Provide youth development training and technical assistance to communities and youth-serving organizations across the state.
- Facilitate access to and exchange of youth

development information by maintaining a web site and frequent electronic communications.

- * Compile and analyze state and local data and facilitate access to community level data on youth development indicators.
- * Conducting a cross-system quality assessment snapshot of state-funded youth programs using the Youth Program Quality Assessment developed by High Scope Educational Research Foundation.

- * Adoption of a common result framework and shared goals at the individual agency level.
- * Multi-system utilization of a common quality assessment tool.

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Engaging Youth and Families

- * Promote and support youth leadership development and provide leadership opportunities for youth in state government.
- * Support the State of Iowa Youth Action Committee in its advisory role to the Governor and other state government leaders.
- * Encourage and support through training and technical assistance youth leadership opportunities in communities.

Building Demand/Public Support

- * Partnering with pilot communities to develop and support a community-level youth development infrastructure.
- * Adopted the America's Promise message to build awareness.

Funding:

- * The Collaboration's annual operational cost is about \$750,000, of which about \$350,000 is distributed to communities with which the Collaboration is partnering on particular projects.
- * Funding sources include federal discretionary grants from HHS, Department of Labor and state appropriation for Iowa's Promise.

Local Connections:

- * Formal connections with five communities through grant support for specific capacity-building and collaboration projects.

Accomplishments:

- * Leveraging \$4.5 million.